

THE
LIFE and Character
OF
CHARLES
Duke of *Shrewsbury.*

In a Letter to a Noble Lord.

*By a Gentleman that was Privy to the
most material Passages.*

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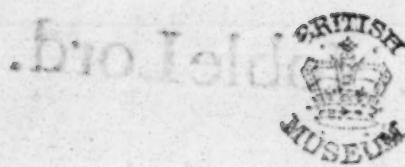
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THE

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MY LORD,
Having some Weeks ago seen
an Advertisement in the *St. James's Post*, that shortly
would be Published Secret Memoires
of the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, I was
moved with Disdain, to think that
the Memory of so great a Man should
be Murthered by those Memoir-Mon-
gers, as was those of the Lords *Halli-*
fax, *Wharton*, Duke *Hamilton*, the

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Bishop of *Salisbury*; and indeed most of the great Men of the Age.

These *Garret Grub-street Authors*, like Dawbers in Painting, if they can form the likeness of a Man in general, take no farther care of making it like the Person it represents; and as on Signs it would not be known, but by the Naine at Bottom, so if they can gather together some Family Letters, and some Scraps of Negotiations and Treaties, they immediately form Memoirs: This, My Lord, (at the desire of several of his Grace's Friends, who knew the intimacy I had with him for near Thirty Years,) induced me to Present your Lordship with the following Sketch of his Life, in which I am sure I do Justice to his Memory, because I neither Flatter his best Actions, nor Conceal his Worst: I lead him through all the Paths of his Life, from his Cradle to his Grave. The *Whigs* must own that I tell Truth when he was of their Side; and those with

with whom he was linked in the latter part of his Life, must acknowledge that I do him Justice there too. I tell you how he came to be a Protestant, and how he behaved at *Rome*; and if Impartiality be a Recommendation to a piece of this kind, I do recommend it as such to your Lordships Favour and Protection.

CHARLES Duke of *Shrewsbury* was Born on St. *James's* Eve, in the Year 1660, just after the Restoration of the Royal Family; and had the Honour of being the first that King *Charles* the Second stood God-Father to.

He was Descended from the Ancient and Noble Family of the *Talbots*, who were for so many succeeding Ages Governours of *Guyen* and *Gascoign* for the *English*, and Earls of *Shrewsbury* since the Reign of *Henry* the 4th.

His Father, the Earl of *Shrewsbury*, was a *Roman Catholick*, as the Family

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ly had always been ; and his Mother one of the greatest Beauties of that Age, a Daughter of *Brudnall* Earl of *Cardigan*, of the same Religion, in which our Young Duke was brought up till he arrived to the Years of Reason and Discretion, to look about and choose for himself.

In the Year 1679 he became acquainted with that eminent Divine Dr *Tillotson*, and as he would not enter the Lists of Disputing with him himself, he got his Grand-Father the Earl of *Cardigan* to collect all that the Popish Priests could say in Defence of their Religion, and carried it to the Doctor for his Opinion, and his Answer he carried back to his Grand-Father, and this he continued for near Two Years, till at last being thoroughly convinced of the Errors of the Church of *Rome*, he Renounced them, and embraced the Protestant Religion, even at a time when Popery began very much to prevail in *England*, and it's

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it's to those Conversations, and his Conversion, that we owe those eminent Pieces against Popery in Doctor Tillotson's Printed Works.

When King *James* ascended the Throne, that Prince, although a Papist, gave him the Command of a Regiment of Horse, but Popery reigning Rampant at Court, and finding himself employed to break through the Laws of his Countrey, and bring in a Despotick Power, he could not stand it; for pretending to go to *France*, he and Mr. *Russel* one of the Grooms of the Bed-Chamber to King *James* (and now Earl of *Orford*) hired a Boat privately, and went over to *Holland* to the Prince of *Orange*, having first Borrowed 12000*l.* upon his Estate, to support him there, part of which was from Father *Peters*.

In *Holland* he declared openly for the Laws and Libertys of his Country, and was the chief Instrument of bringing about that *Glorious Revolution* which hapned soon after. In

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In 1688 he came over with the Prince of *Orange*, and was sent by that Prince on his Landing, to take possession of *Bristol*.

He was also one of the three Peers that were sent to King *James*, from the Prince of *Orange*, to desire him to retire from *Whitehall*; and after that King's Abdication, and King *William's* Acceſſion to the Throne, was made sole Secretary of State, although not above Twenty Eight Years Old.

He continued in this Station till the King's Affairs obliging him to bring in ſome of the *Toryes* into the Administration, (for now thoſe names of diſtinction of *Whig* and *Tory* were re-vived,) he would not conſent to a mixt Ministry, and declaring himſelf a thorough *Whig*, gave up the Seals of his Office, and retired.

During his Retreat, he contracted a great Intimacy with the Earl of *Marlborough*, and Lord *Godolphin*, and ſeem'd to declare againſt ever coming into

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into Publick Business again, but the Kings affairs in Parliament wanting the support and aid of the *Whigs*, he was sollicited in 1695 to come in again, which he declined, and retired into the Country; but receiving a Letter from King *William's* Queen, enforcing the Reasons of the Necessity of his coming in, and granting all his Demands of bringing in his own People with him, he again accepted of the Seals, was Created a Duke, and made Knight of the Garter; but an unlucky Fall from his Horse as he was a Hunting, who in rising struck him on the Breast, brought on such a spitting of Blood and shortness of Breath, as made him uncapable of staying in Town, or attending Business, so that he was removed from Secretary of State to be Lord Chamberlain, and his own private Secretary Mr. *Vernon* was made Secretary of State.

At this Juncture the Parliament made the Court very uneasy about the Par-

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tition Treaty, and he being one of the prime Ministers, it was generally whisper'd, that this Illness was all pretence, to keep him from having a Share in what was then transacting; and there were not those wanting, that endeavour'd to perswade the King that it was so, but the King knew him too well, to believe any thing of that kind, and surprizing him in his Room at *Hampton Court* one Morning before he was up, saw by the Sheet being all over spit with Blood, that it was but too true. However the Parliament did not put his Name amongst those that were Impeached, and if they had, his Interest might have thrown out the Bill. There were also those that joined to supineness, inclinations to Jacobitism, and particularly one *Smith* accused him of having discovered to him the design'd Assassination long before any other, and that he stifled his Information, in this he was supported by a Peer that has Travell'd much since, and Printed

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a Book of his Conversations with the Duke on that Subject, which was brought into the House of Peers, but as the Duke had Communicated every thing to the King from time to time, as it passed, that Book was condemned by the House of Peers to be Burnt by the Hand of the Common Hangman.

His Spitting of Blood encreasing upon him, the most Eminent Physicians gave under their Hands that nothing could Cure him but going to a warmer Climate, and Sir *Thomas Millington* spoke to the King to advise him to go to *Montpellier* in *France*, whereupon he resigned his *Staff* and *Key* as *Chamberlain*, and prepared to go over at a time when his Friends the Earl of *Orford*, Lord *Sommers* and *Hallifax*, were harrass'd by the Parliament: This made those that would not believe his Illness, treat him as a Deserter; and attributed his leaving the Kingdom to Cowardice, he retired to his Friend

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Mr. Mackey's House at Dover, for two or three Days, till the Yacht should be ready that was to Transport him; and he there received the Kings surprizing Order, from a Secretary of State, to take *Paris* in his way to *Montpellier*, and to Visit the *French* King.

This did a little Shock him, for he designed to have retired privately to some Warm Corner; the Argument the King used with him was, that it would look as Ill Manners in a Person of his Quality and Distinction, to come into a Princes Country, with whom he had so lately concluded a firm Friendship and Peace, not to see him; and the Duke on the contrary, suspected that this piece of Good Manners would expose him amongst the People of *England*, as having a Share, and being a Carrier on, of those Measures between the two Courts as were not agreeable in *England*; and in which he had no hand. However, having the King's Com-

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Command, on his Arrival at *Paris*, he went directly to *Versailles*, and was received there as if the *French* King was in the Secret, to make Mankind believe, that he was upon a *Negociation*, for the Captain of the Guards received him at the Head of the Stairs, the Marquis *de Torcy* Secretary of State, at the Door of the Bed-Chamber, and the King himself at the Door of his Closet, where he entertained him for half an hour about *Bagatelles*; as he came out of the *French* Kings Closet he met the Count *de Lausun*, who, after the usual Civilities, asked him if he would not see the Chevalier *de St. George*, he answered, *that if he was to see him, he would choose rather to see him there than in England*; and he took that care during the time he stay'd at *Paris*, as to avoid every body belonging to that Court, even the Earl of *Middleton*, who was Married to his Mothers Sister, and with whom he had for many Years been in
the

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the most intimate and affectionate Friendship, he would not see, nor any belonging to him, not even his Aunt, because he would not give the least Suspicion of an Inclination to that Court : I must add on this subject, that when it was afterwards told him, that the Earl of Jersey had employed People to know if he had seen the Earl of Middleton ; he answered, *That he hoped he was so well served, as to know he did not.*

He had scarce got to *Montpellier*, when the King of *Spain* Died, and *France* seized upon that Monarchy, on which he reasonably concluded we should be drawn into a new War, and therefore made hast to get out of *France*, and retired to *Geneva*, where he passed his time very agreeably for a Year, but the Fogs from the Lake made his Distemper grow upon him, so that he was obliged to get over the *Alps* and go into *Italy*.

Naples was the Place he designed to retire

retire to, but that Kingdom being in the Possession of King *Phillip*, who he foresaw would soon become an Enemy, he went to *Rome*, took a very handsome Palace near the *Capitol*, and lived there above Three Years. On Queen *Ann's* Accession to the Throne he received Letters both from the Duke of *Marlborough* and Earl *Godolphin*, offering him the Place of Master of the Horse to Her Majesty, and intreating him to come Home and share in the Administration with them; but neither his Health nor Inclination would permit him to enter into Publick Affairs again, for which he declared an utter abhorrence.

His Enemies in *England*, who made his Distemper only a State Trick, gave now out that he was a *Roman Catholick* again, and the *English* Papists overjoyed at the return of so considerable a Branch, joined in the Cry, and said that his Journey to *Rome* was purely to reconcile himself to their Church;

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Church, for that none but the Pope could absolve him of his Abjuration; but he was so far from that, that the more he saw of Popery abroad, the more he was confirmed in the Protestant Religion and Interest. I have heard him say, *that all English Men ought to Travel, to value the more their so happy Constitution, for the more we saw of the Foppery of the Roman Religion, and the Oppression in Despotick Governments, the more we would support that Ease and Happy Government in Church and State we are under at Home*; particularly, he abhorred the Processions made to the *Madona's*, and the Worshipping of Our Saviour *Jesus Christ* in the Shape of a Wafer, erected on a Throne as an Earthly King; and by the exposing of these Follys in his daily Conversations he converted the Earl of *Cardigan* and his Brother, from Popery, even at *Rome*, nay he was so strict this way, that he would never enter their Churches to see

see any Curiosities during the time of any Service whatsoever, to avoid any Indecency from himself, or Scandal to others; and when an *Italian* Abbot who had the Character of Envoy to the Pope from the House of *Hanover*, would have visited him, he refused to see him under that Character; for he was sure that Family had nothing to say to the Pope; but as a Gentleman he should be welcom; he Conversed indifferently with all sorts of People at *Rome*, especially the *Litterati*, and improved his knowledge in Painting and Architecture, to which last he applyed assiduously, and made a very good Collection of the first.

His Evenings he generally passed at the Princess *Carpigni*'s, where he first saw the present Dutches; she was Widdow to a Counte belonging to the late Queen of *Sweden*, and Daughter to the Marquis *Paliotti* of

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Bologna, by a Daughter of *Dudley*
Duke of *Northumberland* that Eminent
Mathematician who lived at *Florence*,
and lineally descended from *Dudley*
Duke of *Northumberland*, whose Son
Married the Lady *Jane Gray*, who
succeeded to King *Edward* the 6th
on the Throne of *England*: As she had
a great many engaging Qualities, and
he of a Generous as well as Amorous
Temper, there became a strict Friend-
ship between them, which afterwards
concluded in a Marriage; which how-
ever was not celebrated till he got
into a Protestant Country, and she
made an Abjuration of the *Romish*
Faith, which was at *Augsburg* in *Ger-
many*, to which place she followed
him, after he had made the Tour
of *Lombardy*, *Venice*, *Padua*, and *Ve-
rona*. The Story that went current
in *England*, that he was bullied into
this Marriage by two of her Brothers
in *Italy*, is entirely false, for he was
gone

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gone from her above Six Months before the Marriage, and the Marques *Paliotti* her Brother who now Commands a Regiment of Dragoons in *Flanders*, and was said to be the Person that Bullied him, he never saw till Six Weeks after his Marriage, that he came to meet them at *Cologn*, in their way to *England* from the *Palatine* Court at *Dusseldorf*, to which *Paliotti* then belonged; at *Frankfort* he received a very handsom Letter from Sir *Rowland Gwynne*, inviting him to take the Court of *Hannover* in his way, but there were those Measures then to be kept between the two Courts of *England* and *Hannover*, that he chose to go directly to *Holland*, from whence in a little time he embarked for *England*.

He Communicated his Marriage in a Letter from *Francfort* to the Duke of *Marlborough*, who was then in *Flanders*

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ders, who by the very Stile discovered that the Duke of *Shrewsbury* had done a thing he wanted to make an Apology for, and his Friends in *England* believed he was ashamed of it, since the Notice they had of it, was by his Letter to Mr. *De la Faye*, one of the Clerks of the Secretarys Office, who took care of his Letters; and another to Mr. *Macky*: On his arrival in *England* he was extreamly well received by the Duke and Dutches of *Marlborough*, by the Earl *Godolphin*, and the Court; but he soon perceived a Coldness in his old Friends the *Whigs*, some for his Deserction as they called it, others for his Marriage, and others for his going to *Rome*, and many for all three; this occasioned his going down to his Countrys of *Worcestershire* and *Shropshire*; but finding the same Coldnes also there, he retired to a late Purchase he had made in *Oxfordshire*, called *Hetrop*, in a fine Coun-

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Country near *Woodstock*; and there built a most Noble Palace, from a Model he had brought from *Rome*, which is certainly one of the best and noblest in *England*.

During this retirement, the other Party left no Stone unturned to get so considerable a Man unto their side, they knew the great Regard the Queen had for him, the Reputation he generally had with the People; and did not fail representing the Ingratitude of a Party to whom he had been so useful. Mr. *Harley*, afterwards Earl of *Oxford*, managed this part for them, and many a meeting they had on *Cotswold Downs* at Hunting Matches, till at last he was prevailed upon to return to Town.

On his arrival at *London*, he was visited by the Duke of *Buckingham*, the late Earl of *Rochester*, and all that Party,

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ty; and very soon was brought into all their Measures for pulling down the Duke of *Marlborough* and Earl *Godolphin*: Being Neglected, goes a great way with great Spirits; and Resentment makes Mankind often Rebel against Principle; in short, the Lady *Marshall* having prepared the Queen, and the Duke of *Somerset*, then Master of the Horse, being also discontented, and the Duke of *Argyle*, they concerted measures against the Ministry, which upon the Earl *Godolphin*s being at a Horse Match at *New-Market*, they put in Execution, by procuring the *Staff* and *Key* of Lord Chamberlain to the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, while that Lord was absent.

This sudden step, as was thought (though it had been longconcerting) astonished the whole Nation, Stocks fell, the Duke of *Marlborough* abroad, every thing in Confusion; which the

Duke

Duke was so sensible of, that in a Letter to Mr. Benjamin Overton, in answer to one of his on that Subject, desired him to assure his Friends, that whatever Reasons he had to come into the Ministry then, he would never depart from his Principles as an English Man, and an Afferter of the Rights and Liberties of his Country: Another Gentleman visiting him two days after he received the Staff, the Duke asked him what the Town said? He answered that they said he was opening a Door to a Tory Ministry; he replyed peevishly, that he opened no Door but what he could shut when he pleased: And this being told the Duke of Marlborough by the same Gentleman about Six Weeks after, at Brussels, he said, In this Country of Holland, if a Man cuts a Dike, he does not know how much Water may break in, and cannot stop it when he would; and so it proved with the Duke of Shrewsbury, for he not only

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only kept the Door open to all the *Tories* to come in, but even Presented all the *Tory* Addresses himself, and never stopt till the whole Ministry was changed.

He never was so active in any Administration as in this, yet had no share in Advising the Queen to make that Unaccountable Declaration to Count *Galas* and Mr. *Vrybergh*, Ministers of the Emperor and States General; and to Sir *Gilbert Heathcot* from the City, *that whatever Reasons she had to turn out the Earl of Sunderland from being Secretary of State, she would carry the Changes no farther, nor Dissolve that Parliament*, because he knew, that in less than a Month she would do both.

He knew that the Ministry he had brought in, had not Credit enough with the Monyed Men of the Nation, to carry the Queen through the War;

War; he therefore entred into all their Measures for obtaining a Peace, to conserve them in the Ministry.

He was privy to the late Earl of *J-sey* and Count *Tallard*'s sending the Abbot *Gautier* to *France*, to sound that Court on that Subject; and to Mr. *Prior*'s following him; he was the first to Treat with Monsieur *Mesnager*, whom *Prior* brought back with him to *London*; and to the turning out *Mackey of Dover*, for having discovered these steps of privacy to the *Whigs*; and yet Principle got so far the better of Resentment on this score, that he often sent Mr. *Mackey Summs* of Money when he was out, without letting him know from whence they came: In fine, to give the finishing stroke to the Treaty of Peace, he accepted of going Ambassador Extraordinary to the *French Court*, to compleat it.

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Never Minister was better received at the Court of *France* than he was; but there was an unlucky but pleasant incident that made the People of *Paris* very merry at his Entry.

The Ancient Motto of the Family of *Shrewsbury* is *Prest d' Accomplir*, or ready to fulfil or accomplish, and he having this on all his Coaches, under his Arms, the *French* said the *English* must be very fond of Peace when their Ambassador declares it on his Coaches.

However as he was neither to be Flattered nor Cajoled, and insisted upon several beneficial Articles of Commerce, which the *French* would have declined; and being entirely out of the Secret of the deep designs then on foot, in favour of the Pretender he soon found a Coolness in that Court towards him, and perceived

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ved that there was Momentous secret passages between the Courts of *England* and *France*, that were managed by Mr. *Prior* without him, *Barton* the Messenger passed often between the Lord *Bolingbrook* and Mr. *Prior*, that he knew nothing of, which made him for several Months Sollicit his return, before he could obtain the permission.

When he came to *England* he had hardly time given him to settle his private Affairs, before they sent him out of the way, Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, that a Person of his penetration might not see the Dark doings then on foot, and perhaps have saved the Queen from splitting on that Rock which cost her her Life.

They had sent Sir *Constantine Phipps* before, Lord Chancellor to *Ireland*, and designed to have given the Duke

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a Secretary of the same Stamp; but he insisting very positively on carrying his own Secretary, Sir *John Stanly*, the Queen with much ado agreed to it; and which was no small Mortification to the Tory Party, he being a Gentleman of undoubted Integrity, bred up in Revolution Principles, and a Native of *Ireland*, and which gave the *Irish* *Torys* an indifferent presage of the Dukes Administration there.

His reception at *Dublin* seemed to be a Lampoon upon him, the Recorder in his Speech complemented him on the great share he had in the Revolution; and the Peers and Clergy complemented him on the great share he had in making the Peace, Two things as opposite in Principles as the Poles are distant. However, no Man in his Circumstances, under the influence of such an Administration at Court,

Court, and tyed down to the Rules of the Lord *Chancellor*, could behave himself with more Care for the Protestant Interest, and the Libertys of that Country: I do averr, that he could have had Sir *Richard Levens* set up by the *Torys*, chosen Speaker of the House of Commons instead of Mr. *Broderick* set up by the *Whigs* if he had pleased; but he would neither by Bribery nor Influence, break in upon that Liberty which ought to be so sacred in a Parliaments choice of their Speaker; nay, when General *Stewart* at his Levee one Morning, speaking of an Election with Joy that the *Torys* had carryed, made use of the word *We*, the Duke took him up short, and *bid him not speak in the plural Number*, for he came not there to be of any Party, but to administer *Justice impartially to all*, to serve his *Queen*, and protect the Subjects in their *Liberty*; nay, when the

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the Election for the City of *Dublin* came on, and the *Torys* as a mark of Distinction wore Lawrels in their Hats, he ordered the Yeomen of the Guards to deny entrance to every body without distinction, that should come to Court with that, or any other badge of Dissentition; and when that Election came on, and the *Papists* (who are very numerous in *Dublin*) joined with the *Torys* to Mobb the *Whigs*, he tacitely permitted the Guards to go and disperce them, yet the *Whigs* durst not trust him, and the *Torys* suspected him, so that you must imagine he had a very indifferent Game to play; and when he returned to *England*, the *Torys* had the Insolence to Print a Satyr, and Cry it about the Streets before he was on Ship board, entituled *Poliphemus*, or *Irelands Eye*, alluding to his one Eye.

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The Fleet being paid off, and the Army reduced, after such a manner as not to be ever in a condition of obstructing the Restoration of the Pretender, the Duke of *Shrewsbury* on his arrival at *London*, found the Ministry all to pieces amongst themselves, *Bolingbrook* and his Party driving furiously on, and *Oxford* and his, a little more warily, divided them about the method of bringing the Pretender in; and this Division happened to save the Nation; for what could hinder if he had Landed before the Queen Died, the Duke of *Ormond* then at the Head of the modelled Army, which was purged of all Officers of Revolution Principles, and that Sir *H——n W——r*, since a Fugitive, at the Head of the Fleet; and the Nation so Poisoned in his Favour, by the inferior Clergy, that it was next to impossible he should meet with any opposition: But Providence

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vidence always more careful of us than we are of our selves, designed it otherwise; and this Division and Scuffle, in which the Earl of *Oxford* lost his White Staff, threw the Queen into Fits, of which she Dyed. However, before her Death, that the Treasury might not be without a Head, the Staff must be Lodged somewhere; and accordingly on her Death Bed she deliver'd it to the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, so that at the Queens Death he was Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, Lord High Treasurer of *Great Britain*, and Lord Chamberlain, Three great Employments, never in the Hands of one Person before.

He Signed the Proclamation for Proclaiming King **GEORGE**, and was one of the Lords appointed by his Majesty to Govern the Nation till his arrival; he attended close at the

the Treasury, yet did nothing, but in conjunction with the Lord *Hallifax* Auditor of the Exchequer; and although there were several Employments Vacant in the Revenue in his Gift, yet he disposed of none, but left all till His Majesties arrival.

On His Majesties Landing at *Greenwich* he Surrendered his two Employments of Treasurer, and Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, the First of which His Majesty put in Commission, and gave the Second to the Earl of *Sunderland*; but he was confirmed in his Third Employment of Lord Chamberlain of his Majesties Household, and began to form a Party in Conjunction with the Lord *Hallifax* and some others, for a Coalition, and Mixing the Ministry; but as there was a Necessity of justifying the Honour of the Nation abroad, by enquiring into that Fatal Cessation

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on of Arms, and that most inglorious and almost Separate Peace, by which we abandoned our Allies, and indeed Betrayed our selves, The Duke seldom or never went to the Cabinet Council, though regularly Summon'd, because he could not bear hearing those things Condemned, in the Negotiating of which he had so great a share; however he continued to act in his Post of Lord Chamberlain, for several Months, and was very well with the King, even after his resignation of the Key to the last.

Being out of all Employments he took a Country Seat near London and his Old Distemper turning into an *Asthma*, he was often out of Order, and in the *Christmas* Holyday 1717, was Seized with a Fever which joined to the other, carried him off.

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On the *Monday* before he Dyed he sent for all his Servants up into his Room, and telling them, that let the Physicians say what they would, he was sure he must Dye then, and desired that if Death should carry him off suddenly, they would do that Justice to his Memory, as to declare as he did, that he Died in the Communion of the Church of *England*, of which he had been above Thirty Years, an unworthy Member.

On *Tuesday* he received the Sacrament, from the Hands of the Bishop of *Salisbury* and Doctor *Clark* his Parish Minister, and on *Wednesday* Mrs. *Goodiere* his House Keeper coming into his Room, he seriously asked her, *what it was to bring a Child into the World?* she answered, a pain that surpasseth imagination: *and so it is also to get out of it* says he, *how vain is this World,*

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and yet what a struggle we have to part with it.

He preserved his Judgment and Senses to the last Minute, even the day he Dyed he bad the Dutches and Physician go to Dinner, and come and chatt with him when they had done, but before Dinner was over he Dyed.

He was one of the finest Gentlemen of the Age he lived in, very handsom in his Person, of an admirable Address, a charming way of speaking, the Kindest Master to his Servants, and the Justest to his Creditors that ever was known.

He was a Nobleman of great Gallantry amongst the Ladies when Young, of whom the *Atalantis* mistakes many; he might have had many great Matches in his own Country,

Duke of Shrewsbury. 35

Country, and some he designed himself, if he had not found the Ladies facile.

He had the misfortune in the several Changes and Turns of Affairs he had been concerned in, not to be thought steady to any Party. He Dyed in the 58th. Year of his Age, and was Buryed with his Ancestors in *Shropshire*.

Although he had no great Opinion of his Heir, who is a *Roman Catholick* and a distant Relation, yet he left the whole Estate to go together for the Honour of the Family, which from four thousand Pounds a Year and in Debt, he brought to Eight Thousand, out of Debt.

He left the Dutches 1200 Pounds a Year (which was his Mothers Jointure) and the House and Furniture

36 The Life of Charles

niture in *Warwick Street*, with 2000 Ounces of his Plate, for Life.

His Box at *Isleworth*, so finely Furnished, he left to his Heir, as also the fine House at *Hetrop*; and appointed the Earl *Cardigan*, the Bishop of *Sarum*, Sir *John Stanley*, and Mr. *Arden* his Steward, Trustees, to see his Will Executed, with an allowance of One Hundred Pounds a Year each, for their Trouble, and left some other small Legacys amongst his Servants.

Thus My Lord, I have finished my Sketch which may prove a Foundation for some abler Pencil to make some time or other a larger Picture.



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